

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims

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Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A telephone control system comprising:
a plurality of telephone sets which are connected to a plurality of lines, each of the telephone sets including:
a status setting device capable of setting the telephone set into any of an on-call status, a call holding status and an on-hook status, and capable of releasing any set status;
a status discriminator for discriminating status of the plurality of lines to be one of the on-call status, the call holding status and the on-hook status;
an incoming-call detector for detecting an incoming call signal from any one of the plurality of lines;
a notification device for providing a notification of an incoming call by one or both of tone information and visible information in response to a detection output from the incoming-call detector; and
a controller for controlling operations of the status setting device, the status discriminator, the incoming-call detector and the notification device,
wherein in a state in which the incoming-call detector has detected a new incoming-call signal from a first line,
when the status discriminator discriminates the call holding status for a second line, the controller controls the notification device so that the incoming call is notified by, at least, tone information, and

when the status discriminator discriminates the on-call status for the second line, the controller controls the notification device so that the incoming call is notified by, at least, visible information.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 1, wherein the telephone set further includes:

a tone-information input/output unit capable of inputting/outputting tone information; and
a handset capable of generating and outputting tone information, and
in a state in which the incoming-call detector has detected the new incoming-call signal from the first line,

when the status discriminator discriminates the call holding status for the second line, the controller controls the notification device so that the tone-information input/output unit outputs the tone information, whereby notification is provided for the incoming call; and

when the status discriminator discriminates the on-call status for the second line, the controller controls the notification device so that the handset outputs the tone information, whereby notification is provided for the incoming call.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 2, wherein the plurality of telephone sets includes a master telephone set and a slave telephone set,

the master telephone set includes slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry capable of calling up the slave telephone set or releasing the calling-up of the slave telephone set, and

in a state in which a signal for calling up the slave telephone set from the master telephone set is being issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry,

when the slave telephone set has the on-call status, the controller included in the slave telephone set controls the status setting device so as to set the slave telephone set in the call holding status for a time period, and controls the notification device so that the tone-information input/output unit generates and outputs a ringing tone to provide notification of the calling-up.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 2, wherein the plurality of telephone sets include a master telephone set and a plurality of slave telephone sets,

the slave telephone set includes slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry capable of calling-up another slave telephone set or releasing the calling-up of the other slave telephone set, and

in a state in which a signal for calling up the other slave telephone set from one slave telephone set is being issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry,

when the other slave telephone set has the on-call status, the controller included in the other slave telephone set controls the notification device so that a calling-up notification is provided by visible information, and

when the other slave telephone set has the call holding status, the controller included in the other slave telephone set controls the notification device so that the calling-up notification is provided by visible information and tone information.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 3, wherein in a state in which a signal for releasing the calling-up of the slave telephone set is being issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry, when the slave telephone set has the call holding status, the controller included in the to-be released slave telephone set, controls the notification device so that the output of the ringing tone is stopped, and controls the status setting device so that the setting of the call holding status is released and the on-call status is set.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 4, wherein in a state in which a signal for releasing the calling-up of the slave telephone set is being issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry, when the slave telephone set has the call holding status, the controller included in the to-be released slave telephone set, controls the notification device so that the output of the ringing tone is stopped, and controls the status setting device so that the setting of the call holding status is released and the on-call status is set.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 3, wherein the tone information includes a hold tone indicating the call holding status, an incoming call tone for providing notification of the incoming call, and a ringing tone for calling up the slave telephone set, and

the hold tone, the incoming call tone and the ringing tone are formed of tone qualities, tone levels and tone signals which are respectively different from one another.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 4, wherein the tone information includes a hold tone indicating the call holding status, an incoming call tone for providing notification of the incoming call, and a ringing tone for calling up the slave telephone set, and

the hold tone, the incoming call tone and the ringing tone are formed of tone qualities, tone levels and tone signals which are respectively different from one another.

Claim 9 (Original): The telephone control system of claim 3, wherein the master telephone set is connected to the plurality of lines, and the slave telephone set is a cordless telephone set which communicates with the master telephone set by radio.

Claim 10 (Original): The telephone control system of claim 4, wherein the master telephone set is connected to the plurality of lines, and the slave telephone set is a cordless telephone set which communicates with the master telephone set by radio.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of lines includes an analog communication line and a digital communication line.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A telephone control system comprising:
a plurality of telephone sets connected to multiple communication lines, each telephone set including a status setting device for setting and releasing telephone set status, a status discriminator, an incoming-call detector, a notification device for providing incoming call notification, and a controller,

wherein if the incoming-call detector detects an incoming call signal on a second one of the communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates a call holding status for a first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device to provide at least an aural incoming call notification, and

wherein if the incoming-call detector detects the incoming call signal on the second one of the communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates an on-call status for the first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device to provide at least a visual incoming call notification.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 12, wherein each telephone set further includes a tone-information input/output unit and a handset, and

if the incoming-call detector detects the incoming-call signal on the second one of the communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates the call holding status for the first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device so that the tone-information input/output unit outputs tone information as the aural incoming call notification, and

if the incoming-call detector detects the incoming-call signal on the second one of the communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates the on call status for the first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device so that the handset outputs tone information as the aural incoming call notification.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 13, wherein the plurality of telephone sets includes a master telephone set and a slave telephone set, the master telephone set including slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry, and

if the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry issues a calling-up signal for calling up the slave telephone set and the slave telephone set has the on-call status, the controller of the slave telephone set controls the status setting device thereof to set the call holding status for the slave telephone set for a time period, and controls the notification device thereof so that the tone-information input/output unit thereof generates and outputs a ringing tone to provide calling-up notification.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 14, wherein if a release signal for releasing the calling-up of the slave telephone set is issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry and the slave telephone set has the call holding status, the

controller included in the to-be released slave telephone set controls the notification device thereof so that output of the ringing tone is stopped, and controls the status setting device thereof so that the call holding status is released and the on-call status is set.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The telephone control system of claim 13, wherein the plurality of telephone sets includes a master telephone set and a plurality of slave telephone sets, each slave telephone set including slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry,

if a calling up signal for a second slave telephone set is issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry of a first slave telephone set and the second slave telephone set has the on-call status, the controller of the second slave telephone set controls the notification device thereof to provide a visual calling-up notification, and

if a calling up signal for the second slave telephone set is issued by the slave-telephone-set calling-up circuitry of the first slave telephone set when the second slave telephone set has the call holding status, the controller of the second slave telephone set controls the notification device thereof to provide an aural and visual calling-up notification.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A telephone system comprising:
a master telephone set connected to a plurality of communication lines, the master telephone set comprising an incoming-call detector, an incoming call notification device, and a controller; and

a slave telephone set wirelessly connected to the master telephone set,
wherein if the master telephone set is engaged in a call over a first one of the communication lines and the incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on a second one of the communication lines, the notification device of the master telephone set provides at least a visual incoming call notification, and

wherein if a call in which the master telephone set is engaged on the first one of the communication lines is on hold and the incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on the second one of the communication lines, the notification device of the master telephone set provides at least an aural incoming notification.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The telephone system according to claim 17, wherein if the master telephone set is engaged in a call over the first one of the communication lines and the incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on a second one of the communication lines, the master telephone set generates a page signal for the slave telephone set and an incoming call notification device of the slave telephone set is responsive thereto for providing at least an aural incoming call notification.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The telephone system according to claim 17, wherein if a call in which the master telephone set is engaged over the first one of the communication lines is on-hold and the incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on a second one of the communication lines, the master telephone set generates a page signal for the slave telephone set and the incoming call notification device of the slave telephone set is responsive thereto for providing at least an aural incoming call notification.